

ER 6-5400

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)

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SUBJECT : Financial Obligation [REDACTED]

18 January 1955

18 Sept 55
checked with [REDACTED]
on the status of this
case and found that
[REDACTED] has been
making regular
payments and has
reduced the balance
due to \$650.

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1. Pursuant to your request, there is attached a draft letter addressed to [REDACTED]'s present employer advising him of [REDACTED]'s indebtedness and requesting his assistance in this matter.

2. We have looked into situations of this sort to determine how they are handled normally in Government. Of course, After reasonable collection attempts have been made by the department or agency concerned and if no satisfaction were obtained, the matter would be referred to the General Accounting Office. However, so long as some chance of repayment were held out, such a referral would not be necessary. The Comptroller General's Office gave their informal comment that under circumstances such as exist in the [REDACTED] they would not make additional efforts of the type proposed.

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3. [REDACTED] has given evidence of his good faith by payments to date and is in no way denying his obligation. If he carries out his new offer the outstanding balance would be liquidated in about 13 months. Under the circumstances, therefore, I believe his offer should be accepted, and I recommended against dispatch of the letter to his present employer. Not only do we appear in a rather unbusinesslike light in revealing such an inadvertent payment, but I believe that such a letter would not be likely to compel [REDACTED] to go back to his original undertaking. I feel, therefore, that we should let the matter ride as long as [REDACTED] keeps up his payments.

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/s/
LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

1 Attachment

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Original forwarded to Fin. Div. 2/2/55